

Rainier Valley HERITAGE NEWS

Spring, 2015

May 30th, celebrate America's favorite pastime at our annual meeting for members and friends.

This year our Annual Meeting is going to be all about baseball.

We will have a number of historic baseball artifacts on display, including some of the pages of a commemorative insert from a 1969 edition of the Post Intelligencer celebrating Seattle's first Major League team, Rainiers and Seattle Pilots uniform, caps, photos of Sicks Stadium, Dugdale Park, and team photos.



Japanese Torii Gate that stood in the park from 1935-1987. The film presents the history of the Torii during the 52 years before it was removed. (See article on the Torii on page 3.)

Stop by our office in May and take a look at our "Play Ball" window, which features Fred Hutchinson (pictured on the "baseball card" to the left), famous local player and namesake of Fred Hutchinson Cancer and Research Center.

Local author and third grade teacher, Mark Holtzen will be our guest speaker. He has just finished writing "Ticket to the Pennant," a children's book about a Rainiers baseball game at Sick's Stadium. He will not have copies on hand, but he will be reading excerpts from the book and talking about the local history he collected as a backdrop for his book. Mr. Holtzen also wrote an article for the February issue of The Mount Baker View entitled, "Faded Signs & Vivid Memories of Mount Baker's Baseball Past."

We will also premiere a documentary created by Friends of Seward Park on the

**Saturday, May 30, 2015
10:00am - 12:00pm
Rainier Valley Cultural Center
3515 S Alaska Street, Seattle**

- 9:30 am Doors open**
- 10:00 am Business Meeting:**
 - Board Elections
 - Finance Report
 - Projects & Collections Updates
- 10:30 am Program:**
 - Mark Holtzen, local author
 - Film on the Japanese Torii Gate
- 11:30 am Lunch** (suggested donation \$10)



News & Notes

Community Forum on Racism
Saturday, May 21st, 2015
7:00pm - 9:00pm
Rainier Valley Cultural Center

RVHS Annual Meeting
Saturday, May 30th, 2015
10:00am - 12:00pm
Rainier Valley Cultural Center

3rd Annual Founder's Dinner
October 17th, 2015, 5:30pm
Mount Virgin Parish Hall
2800 S Massachusetts St., Seattle

Office Hours:
Tuesday 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Friday 10:00am - 1:00pm
Sunday 9:00am - 1:00pm
& by appointment

E-News:
Opt-in to our monthly E-News, "Past is Present." Send an email to news@rainiervalleyhistory.org and we'll add you to the list.

Connect with us online:



facebook.com/rainiervalleyhistorical
twitter.com/RVhistory
pinterest.com/RVHistory

The Rainier Valley Historical Society's mission is to collect, preserve, exhibit, and interpret the history and heritage of the Rainier Valley and its people, and to promote public involvement in and appreciation of its history and culture.

Our geographic boundaries are from Dearborn Street on the north to the city limits on the south, and from the I-5 freeway to Lake Washington.



CULTURE

Thank you to 4Culture for supporting our work!

Collections Update

Some Recent additions:

Journals, photographs, negatives, and documents from the estate of Philip Weiss. Donated by Stuart Weiss.

1929 newspapers found under the floorboards of a house on Lucile Street, donated by Brian Knecht.

Seattle Transit child's fare token, donated by Steve Rauf.

Series of photographs from a 1990s Youth in Focus project documenting the different communities living in Rainier Valley. Donated by SEED.

Panoramic photo of Brighton School from 1926. Donated by Mary O'Brien.

Books, manuals, and documents from the estate of Seattle fireman Bill Creevey. Donated by his son, James Creevey.

Seafair memorabilia from Norm Chamberlain's collection, including a commemorative whiskey bottle. Donated by Barbara Chamberlain.

Oral history of Al Phillips. Interview conducted by Nancy Dulaney.

Original Salumeria sign for 4918 Rainier Ave South, now Tutta Bella. Donated by Grace Weston.

Additions to the Weiss Collection

We are excited to share with you that long time RVHS supporter Stuart Weiss donated his father's journals to our archives. Philip Weiss' 25 volume set ranges from 1921-1983. Philip J. Weiss (1892-1989) lived his adult life in the Lakewood Seward Park neighborhood where he raised his two sons Stuart and Robin with wife Marion Southard. At 13, Philip, his brother Pierre, and parents moved to Columbia City from Wentworth, North Dakota (1905). He attended Broadway High School, University of Washington, and was awarded his law degree from the UW Law School in 1923. Philip practiced law in Columbia City and downtown Seattle in the Dexter-Horton Building. He was a Reserve Officer in the Navy (1917-1918) and served briefly in WWI. He was later called to active duty in January 1941. He retired with rank of Captain in the Navy. Phil documented almost daily, about family, community, faith, the Navy, travel and his law profession.

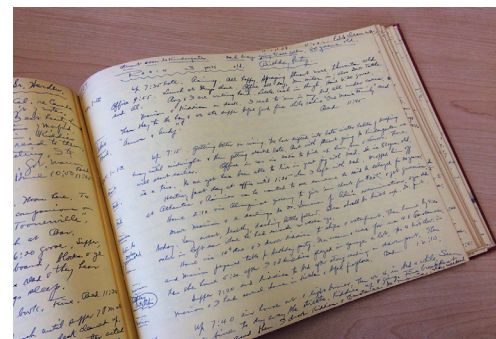


Philip Weiss, c. 1950

We are thankful to Stuart for making sure that his father's journals will be preserved for future generations by entrusting them into our care.



A few of the many photographs in the Weiss Collection, shown prior to being organized and properly housed.



One of the journals in the 25 volume set.

Mount Baker Oral History Project

by Noah Jeppson

The Mount Baker Community Clubhouse has been a fixture of the community for over 100 years. As part of a year-long Centennial Celebration volunteers have been busy uncovering a century of stories and photographs – including old photos of the clubhouse and its notable events. A Prohibition-inspired mixology event referencing bootleg history was held at the clubhouse in February, and a separate project created walking maps with historic sites highlighted. During research and at social events organizers of the community

realized that several neighbors have lived in Mount Baker for many years and have great stories to share. Over the upcoming summer months volunteers will be collecting stories through a special oral history project. Long-term residents and community leaders will be asked to share their personal tales and memories of the neighborhood as it has evolved. These stories will complement the collection of historic photographs and help document life in Mount Baker, serving as a resource for future residents of Rainier



Streetcar line in Mount Baker, accession #193.001.659

Valley. Volunteers interested in helping with this project can email centennial@mountbaker.org.

Newspaper Project

Over the past few months we have been working with Tricia Pearson, who is doing a practicum in museum studies as part of her degree program at the University of Washington. She has been working with our collection of newspapers: cataloging, rehousing, assessing and organizing the large collection. One item of note is a pull-out special insert from 1969, which was printed in celebration of the Pilots, the first major league baseball team in Seattle. We will have selected parts of the insert on display at the Annual Meeting on May 30th, and Tricia will do a short presentation on her work with the collection.

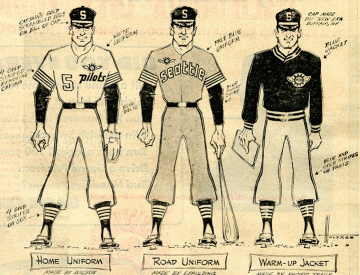
Pilots' Uniform: Distinctive, Simple

By GORDY BOLT

Every fanbase may be too young for the Seattle Pilots, a franchise that is currently in the four months of its infancy. But the fans of the Pilots are not young. They are old enough to remember the Seattle Pilots' first uniform.

And it is in this memory that the Pilots' uniform is being re-created. The Pilots' uniform is being re-created by the Pilots' uniform. The Pilots' uniform is being re-created by the Pilots' uniform.

I must have gone up and down about a year and a half ago. I was in the Pilots' uniform. I was in the Pilots' uniform. I was in the Pilots' uniform.



Pilot Profiles

MI. MARSHALL pitcher. He has been named as a candidate for the P.I. 20-21. He is a pitcher. He is a pitcher. He is a pitcher.

21. WOODRUFF relief pitcher. He is a pitcher. He is a pitcher. He is a pitcher.

22. WOODRUFF relief pitcher. He is a pitcher. He is a pitcher. He is a pitcher.

23. WOODRUFF relief pitcher. He is a pitcher. He is a pitcher. He is a pitcher.



New Shelving for the Newspaper Collection!

RVHS would like to thank Stephen Hultberg for his generous contribution of time and materials in building new shelving for our newspaper collection. The archival boxes that house the newspapers are now stacked more safely, and we can easily access any year of the collection as we need it.



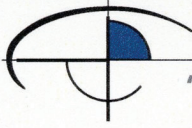
Seattle Post-Intelligencer, April 11th, 1969, accession #1999.020.001

DISMANTLING RACISM

In response to feedback from the community at our Humanities Washington event in March, RVHS is partnering with SouthEast Effective Development (SEED) and the South Seattle Emerald to present a monthly series of forums on racism. This will give us the opportunity to present local history as it relates to the topic, and expand our visibility in the community. The first event is May 21st, from 7-9pm at the Rainier Valley Cultural Center.



Advertise with us! We have opportunities for advertising in all of our publications for a full year, or a one-time ad in the program for the Founder's Dinner in October. For details and pricing, contact Executive Director Virginia Wright, director@rainiervalleyhistory.org.



Burdick's Security
 "Peace Of Mind Since 1959"

Tim Burdick

P 206.725.6072 F 206.723.0773
tburdick@burdicksecurity.com

4700 Rainier Ave. S. • Seattle, WA 98118 • burdicksecurity.com



Contemporary and Traditional
 Custom Built Residential
 Furniture
 Antique Restoration

**STEPHEN HULTBERG
 FURNITURE MAKER, LLC**

5800 Rainier Avenue South, Bldg B
 Seattle, Washington 98118
 206-625-0231
www.hultbergfurniture.com

Leschi Market

103 Lakeside Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122
 MAIN 206-322-0700 • FAX 206-325-4990
WWW.LESCHIMARKET.COM

Steve Shulman Owner
steve@leschimarket.com  main@leschimarket.com



Anton C. "Chuck" Kusak III
 President / CEO

Kusak Cut Glass Works, Inc.
 Designer • Engravers • Importers

1911 22nd Ave. S Seattle, WA 98144
 206-324-2931 1-800-426-9347 Fax (206) 324-1781
www.kusak.com (website) Kusak@Kusak.com

3rd Annual Founder's Dinner

You are invited to join RVHS as we recognize founder Buzz Anderson at our annual Italian dinner, fundraiser, and auction. The dinner will be at Our Lady of Mount Virgin Parish Hall again this year, and will feature the culinary talents of Chef Douglas Chiechi and music by the Tarantellas. Purchase tickets online through our website (rainiervalleyhistory.org), or mail a check to our office at 3710 S Ferdinand, Seattle, WA 98118.

Early Bird tickets are \$40 per person. After October 1st tickets will be \$50 per person. We anticipate selling out the event, so buy your tickets as soon as you can if you want to to come!

We are also looking for sponsors for the dinner through the purchase of advertisements in the dinner program and donations of products or services for the raffle and live auction. If you can buy an ad or donate an item to the raffle or auction, contact us by phone (206-723-1663) or email, info@rainiervalleyhistory.org.



Seward Park Torii Project Moves Forward

by Paul Talbert

In 2011 the Friends of Seward Park decided to replace the torii, or Japanese gate, that stood at the park entrance from 1935 until in the mid-1980s as a symbol of intercultural friendship. With a grant from the Department of Neighborhoods in 2013, the Friends hired Murase Associates to gather input from the community and the Parks Department and produce a design for the new torii, which will have large bush-hammered granite columns and cedar crosspieces. A surrounding plaza of aggregate concrete has been added to the design for ADA accessibility.

Meanwhile the Torii Committee is making the final edits on a video about the Torii Project. The 20 minute video tells how

the Friends uncovered the story of the original torii, from its debut downtown in the 1934 International Potlatch, to recovering a surviving side column of the torii and donating it to the Wing Luke Museum. The video also tells the story of the Torii Project and how it has built community support. The video will be shown to community groups this spring and summer. The Seattle Parks Foundation has agreed to act as fiscal sponsor for the Torii Project and is helping with fundraising. The estimated cost of the project is \$275,000, and the Friends have so far raised about \$38,000 from bequests, gifts, and sales. Additional funding is being sought from foundations, the Department of Neighborhoods, and individual donors.



The original Torii Gate in Seward Park.

For more information or to donate, visit sewardparktorii.org.

Remembering Norm Chamberlain

by Virginia Wright

With the passing of Norm Chamberlain in February, Southeast Seattle lost one of its longest-serving and dedicated champions. Known by nearly everyone, he worked to improve the lives of people in the valley, through his professional work at the helm of Pioneer Human Services, directing its array of human services - in particular helping to open doors for persons suffering under the strains of alcoholism, drug addiction, and re-entry into society after incarceration. His volunteer work over the past several decades was well known and recognized in the community and beyond, and he was tirelessly committed to creating a safe and economically healthy community in Southeast Seattle.

The accompanying photograph was taken by former photojournalist Denis Law. It shows the Norm Chamberlain remembered by so many - a man equally comfortable sitting in a board meeting or piloting a lawn mower.

Norm was a long-standing board member of the RVHS, and contributed tremendously to the foundation and stability of our organization, aligning his interest in the



importance of local heritage with the work of Buzz Anderson. Beyond a commitment to preservation of the past, he devoted time and resources to effecting change and securing a better future for our community. As President of the Rainier Chamber of Commerce he helped to renew a troubled business district, and his legacy lives on in the institutions and facilities whose formation he spearheaded, including the Southeast Seattle Senior Center, The Rainier Valley Cultural Center, and the Southeast Seattle Crime

Prevention Council.

"...he was a wonderful presence -- supportive, positive, cutting through the baloney, moving us forward. He always offered to help in any way he could, and often he did this by hooking me up with the right people to talk to about a given project or activity -- because he knew everyone in the Valley and everyone respected him."

-- Mikala Woodward, former Executive Director, Rainier Valley Historical Society

Stories of Habesha Women

Illuminating the Immigration of Ethiopians and Eritreans into Rainier Valley Through Oral Histories

Thanks to a 4Culture grant, we are working on an oral history project involving mothers and daughters from the local Habesha community. This project will consist of interviews of Ethiopian and Eritrean women. RVHS will provide guidance creating questions and documenting the interviews, which will be featured in exhibitions and on our website.

We have contracted with Vittrice Abel to serve as Project Assistant through the duration of the project. She is an experienced documentary and biography videographer, as well as being well-versed in working with nonprofit organizations and recent citizen populations.

If you would like to participate in the project, please contact Virginia Wright,



Translation of the Amharic text: "Mother & Daughter."

director@rainiervalleyhistory.org. We are excited about bringing these important stories to the wider community and creating a deeper understanding of this rich and vibrant culture.

For more information visit rainiervalleyhistory/habesha.

Barbara Kinnee Aya 1928-2015

RVHS would to extend our condolences to the family of Barbara Kinnee Aya, who passed away this past February. Ms Aya was a long-time supporter of RVHS, and donated a group of 14 historic photos, including the photos below of the Columbia Drug Store located at 4872 Rainier Ave S in the Dodge building. The store was owned and operated by her father Ed Kinnee from the mid 1920s through 1955.



Columbia Drug Store, accession #2001.042.001



Columbia Drug Store interior, accession #2001.042.002

OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer Coordinator

RVHS is seeking an enthusiastic and capable volunteer to help maintain our volunteer program by providing support to the Executive Director and volunteer peers. Contact: director@rainiervalleyhistory.org.

Board Member

RVHS has an opening on the Board of Directors. We are looking for someone with an interest in local history and familiarity with what it means to be a contributing member of a nonprofit board. Email president@rainiervalleyhistory.org.

Rainier Valley Heritage News

Editor and Layout Virginia Wright

Rainier Valley Historical Society

Office 3710 S Ferdinand Street, Seattle, WA 98118

Mailing Address PO Box 18143, Seattle, WA 98118

Phone & Fax 206.723.1663

E-mail office@rainiervalleyhistory.org

Website www.rainiervalleyhistory.org

Office Hours Tuesday 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Friday & Sunday 10:00am - 1:00pm

RVHS Executive Director Virginia Wright

Auxiliary aids and assistance are provided upon request to persons with disabilities.

RVHS Board of Directors

- Sheila Harvey,
President
- Mary Charles,
Vice President
- Karen O'Brien,
Secretary
- Nancy Dulaney,
Treasurer
- Teresa Anderson
- Tim Burdick
- David Eskenazi
- Mark Hannum
- Grover Haynes
- Joan Neville

Honor Roll

Many thanks to our members and supporters who make our work possible! Below are those whose gifts we received between September 2nd, 2014 and April 1st, 2015 Contact us with any corrections or omissions: 206-723-1663 or director@rainiervalleyhistory.org.

History Maker

Barbara Nilson
in memory of Edward Nilson

Theodosia Nassar
Stephen & Nancy Olsen
Al Phillips
Donna Schubert
Frances M. Stowell
William Tabbut
Herb Tsuchiya
Janice Watson

Becky Harrison
Sheila Harvey
Suzanne M. Hittman
Pat Hunsaker
Steve & Margie Hunt
Kroger
Robert & Dorothy Lee
Emily Lee

Patron

Jeffery Biesold
Grover & Wanda Haynes
Susan Parker

Gifts to Endowment

Karen O'Brien
Gerald R Razwick
In honor of George & Ellen Razwick and Buzz & Joanne Anderson

Monica Leigh
Judith Matson
Eva McGough
Merlino Foods
Karen O'Brien
in memory of Norm Chamberlain

Sponsor

Bill & Petra Barclay
Ellen E. Barnhill
Stephanie A. Ragland
Elizabeth Stewart

Gifts to Operating Fund

Teresa Anderson
Susan Boyle
Elsa M. Burr
Lavonne Bush
in memory of Norm Chamberlain
Mary & John Charles
in memory of Norm Chamberlain
James Creevey
In memory of Charles & Louise Creevey

Mary K O'Brien
Joy Okazaki
Martin Patricelli
Al Phillips
Robert Ridder
SouthEast Effective Development (SEED)
Lori & Michael Savides
Randolph Schnabel
in memory of Norm Chamberlain
Donna Schubert
Sam Simone

Individual/Family

Abe Angell
Laura W. Day
Michael & Annamarie DeFranco
Roger & Patrick Ford
Al Johnson
Patricia Killam
Richard & Gloria Money
Andy G. Opacich
Mary Anne Parmeter
Stephen Peringer
Scott Ringgold
Russell Roberts
Kiri Schultz & Michael Wills
in honor of Brigid & Emily Wills
Don Shaffer
Mark Sherman
Anne Soucy
Allen Urlin
Kathy Wickwire

Robert Crooker
in memory of Norm Chamberlain
Janice Damato
Reina Dastur
Laura Day
in memory Virginia Starr Weiss

Betty Smith
Norma Smoczyk
Theodora Mace & Lorna Stone
Frances M. Stowell
in honor of Buzz Anderson
Mr. & Mrs. Ken Taggart

Senior/Student

Chuck Adams
Barbara K. Aya
David Chesnutt
Frank & Margaret Fickeisen
Margaret Gallinger
Judith Matson
Suellen McHugh

Mark DeRocco
Jeff & Barb Durant
in memory of Norm Chamberlain
William A. Earl
Brian & Evelyn Fairchild
George Flannagan
Sidney Flor
Margaret Gallinger

Sara Thompson
Marilyn Tilbury
Herb Tsuchiya
Jean Veldwyk
in memory of Norm Chamberlain
Janice Watson
Kathy Wickwire
Mikala Woodward
Judith Yarrow

Treasurer's Annual Report 2014 Summary

Operations Income

Member Dues.....	\$3,040
Earned Income.....	\$1,688
Interest/Dividends.....	\$2,871
Donations.....	\$5,134
Grants.....	\$7,585
Outreach & Fundraising.....	\$16,824

Operations Income

Total..... \$37,142

Operations Expense

Facilities.....	\$7,673
Administration.....	\$2,961
Personnel.....	\$22,053
Communications/Marketing.....	\$935
Collections.....	\$1,378
Merchandise.....	\$207
Outreach & Fundraising.....	\$3,481
Depreciation.....	\$1,157

Operations Expense

Total..... \$39,845

Liabilities

Sales Tax Payable.....	\$101
Payroll Taxes Payable.....	\$836
Rainier Lions Electricity.....	\$960

Liabilities

Total..... \$1,897

Endowment Donations..... \$200

Endowment Value

12/31/14..... \$211,260



PO BOX 18143
SEATTLE, WA 98118

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SEATTLE, WA
PERMIT NO. 1491

Support History

If you haven't joined the Rainier Valley Historical Society this year, we urge you to do so now.

All membership dues and donations are tax deductible within the limits of the law.

Please fill in this form and mail it with a check to:

Rainier Valley Historical Society

P.O. Box 18143

Seattle, WA 98118

Books and memberships can also be purchased on our website: www.rainiervalleyhistory.org.

<p>Name</p> <p>Address</p> <p>City/State/ZIP</p> <p>Phone</p> <p>Email</p> <p>Please provide us with an email to receive our E-News, "Past is Present!"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Book Order</p> <p>Please send me <i>Images of America: Rainier Valley</i>. Each book in-state is \$29.00 (includes King Co. sales tax/shipping). Each additional book in-state is \$24.00 (includes King Co. tax/shipping). Each book out-of-state is \$27.00 (includes shipping).</p> <p>Number of copies: _____ Total book order \$ _____</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Member \$500</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> History Maker \$350</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$100</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$60</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Family (per household) \$30</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Senior/Student (per household) \$20</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Additional donation to Operating Fund _____ (amount)</p> <p>Donation in honor/memory of (please circle one):</p> <p>Name</p> <p>*Address</p> <p>City/State/Zip</p> <p>*If you provide us with an address, we will be happy to send an acknowledgement of your gift.</p>
--	--